

Message Text

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ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W

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O R 041446Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9335

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 6337

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS CASC ET

SUBJ: SECURITY SITUATION IN ERITREA

REF: STATE 115636

1. THIS MESSAGE INCLUDES INPUT FROM CONGEN ASMARA.
2. NUMBER, LOCATION AND AFFILIATION AMCITS IN ERITREA FOLLOWS:
 - (A) ASMARA: 47 MISSIONARIES, 42 PRIVQTE BUSINESS, 6 PCVS
4 CHARITY, 16 PROJECT HOPE, 230 KAGNEW MILITARY, 251 CONTRACT
CIVILIANS.
 - (B) KEREN: 9 CHARITY, 6 MISSIONARIES, 1 PCV
 - (C) DECAMERE: 31 MISSIONARIES
 - (D) ADI UGRI: 1 CONTRACT TEACHER
3. OTHER RECENT INCIDENTS IN NORTHERN ETHIOPIA BEARING ON
SECURITY SITUATION INCLUDE:
 - (A) GERMAN DOCTOR DRIVING WITH WIFE NEAR METEMA (BERGEMDIR) WAS
HIT BY RIFLE FIRE. HE BLED TO DEATH FROM LEG WOUND, DESPITE
WIFE'S ASSISTANCE, BEFORE WIFE COULD DRIVE HIM TO TOWN FOR
HELP. THERE WAS NO ROBBERY ATTEMPT. INCIDENT OCCURRED ABOUT
MAY 28.
 - (B) SEVERAL REPORTS INDICATE A DEVLOPING TIGREAN LIBERATION
FRONT. THE TLF HAS LIAISON WITH SOME LEMENTS OF ELF, BUT
ONLY LIMITED SUPPORT DUE TO FRAGMENTATION OF ELF. WHILE IT
IS UNLIKELY THAT HE IS PRESENTLY INVOLVED, RAS MENGESHA IS
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VIEWED AS FUTURE LEADER OF MOVEMENT TO UNITE ALL TIGRE PEOPLE

AND RESTORE AXUMITE KINGDOM.

(C) TELECOMMUNICATIONS OFFICE WAS ATTACKED AT SENAFE,
ERITREA, ON JUNE 1.

4. WE NOTE THAT SOME AMCIT MISSIONARIES AND CHARITY WORKERS
IN RURAL ERITREA ARE WITHDRAWING TEMPORILY TO ASMARA.
MOREOVER, WE NOW PLAN TO HAVE ALL PCVS OUT OF ERITREA BY
JUNE 15. THEREFORE ONLY VERY FEW AMCITS WILL REMAIN IN RURAL
AREAS. WE CONFIDENT THEY AS WELL AS ASMARA AMCIT RESIDENTS
ARE AWARE GENRAL DANGER AND ACTING ACCORDINGLY. AT THIS
TIME EMBASSY DOES NOT THINK IT NECESSARY WITHDREW AMCITS FROM
ASMARA.
WYMAN

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